

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Certified Dietitians
Managed Care Plans

Memorandum No: 05-51 MAA
Issued: June 30, 2005

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

For Information Call:
(800) 562-6188

Supersedes: 04-42 MAA

Subject: Medical Nutrition Therapy: Fee Schedule Changes

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2005, the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) will implement:

- The updated Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Data Base (MPFSDB) Year 2005 relative value units (RVUs); and
- Legislatively appropriated one (1.0) percent vender rate increase.

Maximum Allowable Fees

MAA is updating the Medical Nutrition Therapy fee schedule with Year 2005 RVUs and clinical laboratory fees. The 2005 Washington State Legislature appropriated a vendor rate increase of one (1.0) percent for the 2006 state fiscal year. The maximum allowable fees have been adjusted to reflect these changes.

Diagnosis Reminder

MAA requires valid and complete ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes. When billing MAA, use the highest level of specificity (4th or 5th digits when applicable) or the entire claim will be denied.

Billing Instructions Replacement Pages

Attached are updated replacement pages D.1–D.2 for MAA's current *Medical Nutrition Therapy Billing Instructions*.

Bill MAA your usual and customary charge.

MAA's Provider Issuances

To view and download MAA's numbered memoranda and billing instructions electronically, visit MAA's website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov> (select the *Billing Instructions/Numbered Memoranda* link).

To request a free paper copy from the Department of Printing:

1. **Go to:** <http://www.prt.wa.gov/> (Orders filled daily.)
 - a) Click *General Store*.
 - b) If a **Security Alert** screen is displayed, click **OK**.
 - i. Select either *I'm New* or *Been Here*.
 - ii. If new, fill out the registration and click *Register*.
 - iii. If returning, type your email and password and then click *Login*.
 - c) At the **Store Lobby** screen, click *Shop by Agency*. Select *Department of Social and Health Services* and then select *Medical Assistance*.
 - d) Select *Billing Instructions, Forms, Healthy Options, Numbered Memo, Publications, or Issuance Correction*. You will then need to select a year and the select the item by number and title.
2. **Fax/Call:** Dept. of Printing/Attn: Fulfillment at FAX (360) 586-6361/ telephone (360) 586-6360. (Orders may take up to 2 weeks to fill.)

Coverage/Fee Schedule

What is covered?

MAA covers the procedure codes listed below when referred by an EPSDT provider.



Note: Medical nutrition therapy is a face-to-face interaction between the certified dietitian and a client and/or caregiver. MAA limits initial assessments to 2 hours (or 8 units) per year and reassessments to no more than 1 hour (or 4 units) per day. MAA limits group therapy to 1 hour (or 4 units) per day. MAA reimburses for medical nutrition therapy only when referred by an EPSDT provider.

Due to its licensing agreement with the American Medical Association, MAA publishes only the official, brief CPT™ procedure code descriptions. To view the entire description, please refer to your current CPT book.

Procedure Code	Brief Description	7/1/05 Maximum Allowable Fee
97802	Medical nutrition, indiv, in 1 unit=15 minutes	\$11.13 per unit Maximum of 2 hours (8 units) per year
97803	Med nutrition, indiv, subseq 1 unit=15 minutes	\$11.13 per unit Maximum of 1 hour (4 units) per day
97804	Medical nutrition, group 1 unit=15 minutes	\$4.31 Maximum of 1 hour (4 units) per day

CPT codes and descriptions are copyright 2004 American Medical Association.

(Revised June 2005)

-D.1-

Coverage/Fee Schedule

Memo 05-51 MAA

This page intentionally left blank.